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SOURCE Hsin Hsia Pao.

EDITORIAL LANDS GENERAL CHANG,  
WELCOMES GENERAL MA

Today is the first day of office for Gen Ma Pu-fang as Acting Commander of the Northwest Political and Military Headquarters. Ma's willingness to assume this difficult position has made it possible for the people of the Northwest to relax. At the same time, we are prone to dwell on Gen Chang Chin-chung whose absence grieves us.

Buddha said: "If I do not enter prison, who shall?"

Mencius said: "Sacrifice one's life to preserve one's integrity, sacrifice one's life to duty."

A truly great man is he who devotes his life to the service of humanity and suffers hardships that others might have happiness. What is our legacy from General Chang? It is a happy life of peace and security. In the strife that envelopes China, only the Northwest, particularly Sinkiang, is free from the sound of gunfire. The people are able to live and go about their work peacefully. This is a result of General Chang's personal guidance and endeavors to establish a pro-Soviet, peaceful, democratic, united, and centralized policy.

Having saved the people of Sinkiang from the misery of warfare, Chang went to help the rest of the nation's people who could not endure the war much longer. He did this, realizing that peace talks with the Chinese Communists would not be easy, realizing also the dangers of going into Pei-p'ing. The people of the Northwest have lost their champion. The vile conduct of the Chinese Communists toward General Chang is raising his eminence in history.

The Central Government's appointment of General Ma to fill the vacancy is, as far as Sinkiang is concerned, further strengthening and preserving Chang's pro-Soviet and peace policy. Ma is well-known throughout the Northwest. Militarily speaking, he is a natural genius in war strategy. Politically speaking, he is a hard working, effective operator. He is also Chang's most loyal and obedient comrade. All of Chang's policies will have his support and may be applied without any obstructions. A more appropriate choice to take over Chang's position could not have been made.

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Frankly speaking, Chang's policies, although utterly good and admirable, lacked effort in application. It has already been 3 years since the political principles were promulgated. What has been accomplished in that time? A tethered, careless, corrupt and avaricious administration wasted time and caused expiration of the vigor and interest which Chang's promotion of a new government had inflamed in the people. The spirit of depression has returned.

Theory is not enough. Actual application is essential. Preservation of our peace and security and hopes for our progress are now vested in General Ma.

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